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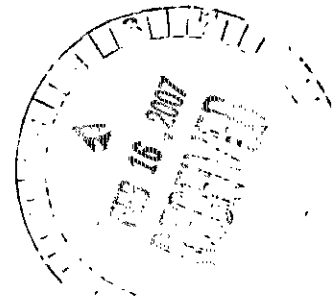
BOB J. CONLEY
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February 13, 2007

Via Hand Delivery

The Honorable Vernon Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
FEB 16 2007
Part of
Public Record



Re: Finance Docket No.: 34943
Beaufort Railroad Company, Inc.'s
Modified Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed please find one (1) original and ten (10) copies of a letter from Colonel R.W. Lanham, Commanding Officer, United States Marine Corp Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina, in support of the Port Royal Railroad right-of-way.

Kindly date stamp the additional copy of this letter and Reply and return the same to our courier.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed, please contact me at the telephone number listed above.

Very truly yours,

Derek F. Dean

DFD/

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Dan Green (w/o enc.)



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29904-5001

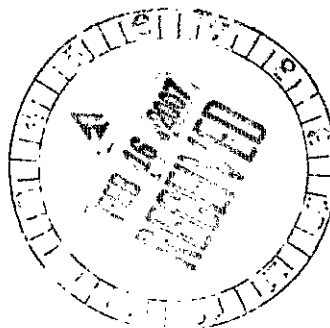
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IN REPLY REFER TO

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09 FEB 2007



Mr. Dan Green
SC Public Railways Commission
540 East Bay Street
Charleston, SC 29403

FD No. 34943

Dear Mr. Green

The Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) located in Beaufort South Carolina and home to Marine Air Group 31 has been serviced by the Yemassee to Port Royal Rail Road since construction of the air station in 1957. Prior to that, Naval Air Station Beaufort located on this property during the Second World War was serviced by the same rail road.

Logistics operations and functions have evolved along with transportation technologies' that have apparently rendered rail delivery of aviation ordnance and fuel to MCAS as too costly for suppliers to use. With the shut down of the State Ports Authority rail service to Port Royal, rail is no longer even a fall back option.

However, with potential impact from the Global War on Terrorism and the global competition for petroleum supplies, no one knows what the future holds for the "movement of things and people".


Therefore, I believe it is in the best interest of the public that the Yemassee to Port Royal rail road right of way be maintained as a government asset. It could be used for recreational or some type of public service in the near term and at the same time preserved as a future option for a transportation right of way.

R. W. LANHAM

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on February 16, 2007, I served the foregoing letter on the following individual via UPS overnight mail and facsimile:

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Thomas F. McFarland, P.C.
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Sharon Simmons